



TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA

ROUNDTABLE ITEM REQUEST FORM

Town Commission

Department Submitting Request

Mayor Roseann Minnet

Mayor/Commissioner Name

Meeting Date / Time

- ☐ April 28, 2010 / 7:00 PM
- ☒ May 26, 2010 / 7:00 PM
- ☐ June 9, 2010 / 7:00 PM
- ☐ June 23, 2010 / 7:00 PM

Deadline w/o Backup

- ☐ April 21, 2010 / Noon
- ☐ May 19, 2010 / Noon
- ☐ June 2, 2010 / Noon
- ☐ June 16, 2010 / Noon

Deadline w/ Backup

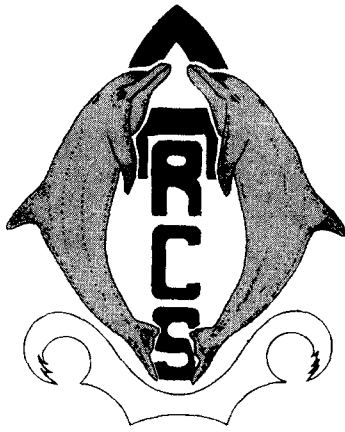
- ☐ April 19, 2010 / Noon
- ☐ May 17, 2010 / Noon
- ☐ June 7, 2010 / Noon
- ☐ June 14, 2010 / Noon

ITEM/ITEMS*: Lifeguard Feasibility Study

ACTION OR OUTCOME EXPECTED:

SPECIAL NOTES: See attached

***ITEMS LISTED THAT WOULD BE GOING TO REGULAR COMMISSION AGENDA
REQUIRE NEW AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM WITH AMPLE TIME TO PRODUCE
BACKUP**



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April 27, 2010

Mayor Roseann Minnet
Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea
4501 Ocean Drive
Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, Fl. 33308

Re: Lifeguard Feasibility Study

Dear Minnet,

I response to our phone conversation on April 27, 2010, I'm submitting a proposal to conduct a lifeguard feasibility study. Dr. Stephen Leatherman and I will be conducting a similar study at Virginia Key Beach this summer (attached). I've concluded a similar study in Panama City Beach while contracted by the PCB Mayor's office and the Bay County Tourist Development Commission (attached).

The objective of this study will be to provide an overview about the efficacy of lifeguards and will include a preliminary plan to establish a lifeguard service in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. This plan will focus on the cost and funding issues that you identified during our last two phone conversations.

The goal of this study will be provide the necessary information that will allow you and the Lauderdale-Bay-The-Sea commissioners to engage in a constructive dialogue relating to the establishment of lifeguards on the beach.

Please note that I have significantly discounted the cost of this study after you made me aware of the limited funding that is available and the importance of moving this forward before there are more drownings.

Sincerely,

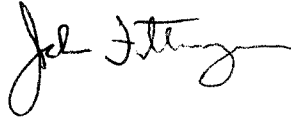
Dr. John R. Fletemeyer

cc: attachments

***Proposal
Lifeguard Feasibility Study
Lauderdale-By-The Sea, Florida***

To: Mayor Roseann Minnet
Town of Lauderdale-By-The Sea

From: Dr. John R. Fletemeyer



Date: April 27, 2010

Amount: \$3,400.00

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea is blessed with a beautiful public beach that provides tourists and local citizens a perfect venue for recreation and relaxation. It is noteworthy that this beach, despite its popularity, is the only municipal beach in Broward County that does not provide its bathers with lifeguard protection. As a consequence there has been a number of preventable drownings mostly resulting from rip currents on this beach over the past couple of years.

The lack of lifeguards along with the combination of antiquated signs that do not accurately describe or warn bathers about rip currents, the lack of a warning flag system that is used on all other neighboring beaches and the use of an ineffective lifesaving buoy program that actually might contribute to a drowning event make the LBS public beach the most dangerous bathing beach in Broward County.

The efficacy of lifeguards in their roll of preventing drownings and promoting beach safety is well established. The objective of the study outlined in this proposal is to provide an overview about lifeguarding and to develop a cost effective plan to establish a lifeguard service in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

The goal of this study will be to provide the Mayor and the LBS Commission with factual and reliable information necessary to begin a dialogue about establishing a lifeguard service that presently is not possible.

The information generated by this study will include and but will not be limited to the consideration of the following three options.

- A lifeguard service that is administered and staffed by LBS government personnel.
- A lifeguard service that is administered and staffed by a private contractor.

- The possibility of establishing a lifeguard service through a reciprocity arrangement with either Ft. Lauderdale or Pompano Beach.

In addition to the above, a cost analysis will be submitted that will consider the above options and the possible use of a part-time staff as a component of the labor force.

An evaluation will be included in this report that identifies possible funding sources that might help to off set some of the costs of a LBS lifeguard service. For example, the potential revenue from a private rental cabana service will be considered and the possibility of soliciting EMS grant funds will be evaluated.

This feasibility study will be completed within 90 days of an executed contract between the P.I. and LBS that includes tasks outlined in this proposal. An interim, progress report will be submitted to the mayor or her designate during the first 45 days.

Included in this contract will be a power point presentation by the P.I. at either a workshop or an informational meeting requested by the mayor.

Virginia Key Beach, Beach Safety Proposal

By

Dr. John R. Fletemeyer

To: Mr. Guy Forchion
Virginia Key Trust
4020 Virginia Beach Drive
Miami, Florida

From: Dr. John Fletemeyer
411 North New River Drive East (302)
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Date: March 1, 2010

Principles: Dr. John Fletemeyer and Dr. Stephen Leatherman

Amount Requested: Parts 1 and 2 (\$ 22,500.00)
Parts 3 and 4 (\$ 26,500.00)
Part 5: (\$11,000.00)

Introduction:

Virgin Key Beach is located next to Rickenbacker Causeway on an 82-acre barrier island in Biscayne Bay. Its history dates back to the early forties when it was established as the only public beach for African Americans. The Virginia Key Trust is responsible for maintaining the beach and for determining plans for future development.

Its history, proximity to Miami and natural beauty makes it an ideal recreational destination, providing that a recreational beach can be established.

Virginia Key Beach has approximately a mile of shoreline that is located along Bear Cut, an area that is sometime subjected to strong tidal currents. In addition to the currents, there are a number of manmade groins and near shore, underwater features that make bathing potentially hazardous.

On February 25, 2010 a meeting between Mr. Guy Forchion and Dr. John Fletemeyer was conducted. A request was made to Dr. Fletemeyer to develop a proposal by April 1, 2010 that would consider the potential to establish a recreational bathing beach on Virginia Key.

On February 26, 2010, Dr. Fletemeyer responded with a letter to Mr. Forchion suggesting that this proposal should be developed in five parts and that it will be possible to have the final proposal with costs listed for each of the five parts by April 1, 2010.

Mobilization and evaluation of materials supplied by Mr. Forchion will take about 14 days once a contract is executed. It is anticipated that the first four parts of this project can be completed within 120 days. Interim, progress reports and the final report will be submitted per the directive of the contractor, Virginia Key Trust.

The five part proposal and the associated tasks include the following:

I. Review and Evaluation.

Review and Evaluation of existing oceanographic and demographic data. Site inspections and systematic beach evaluation using Dr. Stephen Leatherman's "Best Beaches in America Program" methodology. Review and evaluate historical drowning and aquatic accident data supplied by the contractor.

II. Recreational beach identification.

Identification of best location for bathing with critical evaluation of secondary choices. Consideration for other beach related recreation activities, i.e. snorkeling, kayaking, sail boarding, kit boarding, fishing etc. A beach use activity map will be generated.

III. Beach safety plan.

A beach safety plan to include the appropriate number of lifeguards with necessary infrastructure and support equipment. Consideration will be given to possibly establishing marker buoys and lines and as well as certain underlying issues related to buoy maintenance and Coast Guard permitting approval. This plan includes recommendations for appropriate informational and warning signage as well as education information. A SOP manual will be developed if requested by the contractor.

IV. Identification of additional aquatic venues.

Identification of additional aquatic venues including a manmade lagoon pool, a swimming pool and an underwater snorkeling park. Per the request of the contractor, an economic impact analysis of each of the above will be included.

V. Critical evaluation / audits.

Critical evaluation of the beachfront using risk management protocols and safety audits. Per the request of the contractor, provide back-up training to park staff including the use of AED's and responding to an emergency response action plan.

Additional Considerations:

Establishing a recreational beach is problematic for several reasons.

- Shoreline conditions. There are various man made and natural obstructions located on the immediate shore line and underwater. These might represent hazards that must be responded to by either eliminating them or alternatively provided appropriate warnings.
- Currents. There are various tidal currents that may impact beach safety and will influence the “best” choice for a recreational beach. Currents and bottom sediment may impact turbidity and must be considered when evaluating the area for bathing.
- Demographics. Visitors to the park are from different countries. Consequently this must be taken into account.
- Recreational Use. There will be a demand for other water recreational activities besides bathing including boating, kayaking, sail boarding, kite sailing, paddle boarding, snorkeling, fishing, etc. Areas for these activities must be evaluated. Swimming and bathing is usually not compatible with any of the above.
- Marine life. An evaluation of dangerous marine life including sharks, sting rays, Man-O-War, Jellyfish, lion fish, scorpion fish, spinney sea urchins and fire coral must be made.
- Boat traffic. An evaluation of boat traffic must be made. It may be necessary to establish markers indicating a “No Power Boating” area within 300 feet of shore.
- Storms. There needs to be a plan for post-storm impact assessments. Even a lesser category hurricane could significantly impact nearshore conditions and change the existing beach recreational area.

Submitted to Mr. Guy Forchion, Virgin Key Trust

By:

Dr. John R. Fletemeyer

Date:

Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman

Date: